

What is claimed is:

1. An all-terrain vehicle comprising:
 - a frame substantially centered on a longitudinal centerline of the vehicle;
 - an engine disposed on the frame;
 - a plurality of wheels comprising low pressure balloon-type tires, wherein two wheels are attached to a front axle and two wheels are attached to a rear axle;
 - a handle bar operatively connected to at least two of the wheels to provide directional control;
 - a straddle seat disposed above the frame; and
 - a fuel tank fluidly connected to the engine, wherein the fuel tank is disposed forward of the rear axle, substantially above a rear suspension pivot point, and below the seat, and is substantially centered on the longitudinal centerline.
2. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 1, wherein the fuel tank comprises a shape that allows the fuel tank to at least partially surround a member of the frame.
3. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 1, wherein the fuel tank comprises a fuel inlet port, wherein the fuel inlet port is disposed adjacent to the seat.
4. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 3, wherein the fuel tank further comprises a fuel gauge, wherein the fuel gauge is disposed adjacent to the fuel inlet port.
5. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 1, wherein the fuel tank comprises a longitudinal dimension substantially parallel to the longitudinal centerline, a lateral dimension substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal dimension and a height.

6. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 1, wherein the frame comprises an upper member, a lower member, a forward cross member, and a rearward cross member, the upper and lower members being positioned along the longitudinal centerline, the forward and rearward cross members connecting the upper and lower members together, the upper and lower members being spaced apart from one another, and the forward and rearward cross members being spaced apart from one another.

7. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 6, wherein the fuel tank is attached to the frame.

8. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 6, wherein the upper member and the lower member are substantially parallel.

9. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 6, wherein the upper member, the lower member, the forward cross member, and the rearward cross member are connected together to define a cavity therebetween.

10. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 9, wherein the fuel tank is disposed within the cavity.

11. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 10, further comprising a fuel tank mounting bracket, wherein the fuel tank mounting bracket is disposed adjacent to the rearward cross member and the lower member of the frame.

12. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 11, wherein the fuel tank is fixedly attached to the fuel tank mounting bracket.

13. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 6, further comprising a fuel tank mounting bracket, wherein the fuel tank mounting bracket is disposed adjacent to the rearward cross member and the lower member of the frame.

14. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 13, wherein the fuel tank is fixedly attached to the fuel tank mounting bracket.

15. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 6, wherein at least one member of the frame is hollow.

16. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 6, wherein at least one member of the frame has an elongated cross section.

17. The all-terrain vehicle of claim 1, wherein the frame comprises at least two upper members, at least two lower members, at least two forward cross members, and at least two rearward cross members, the upper and lower members being substantially parallel, the forward and rearward cross members connecting the upper and lower members together, and the forward and rearward cross members being spaced apart from one another.

18. An all-terrain vehicle comprising:
a frame, the frame comprising an upper member, a lower member, a forward cross member, and a rearward cross member, the upper and lower members being positioned along a longitudinal centerline of the vehicle, the forward and rearward cross members connecting the upper and lower members together, the upper and lower members being spaced apart from one another, and the forward and rearward members being spaced apart from one another;

an engine disposed on the frame between the upper and lower members and also between the forward and rearward cross members;

a plurality of wheels comprising low pressure balloon-type tires, the plurality of wheels being suspended from the frame, at least one of which is powered by the engine;

a handle bar operatively connected to at least two of the wheels to provide directional control; and

a fuel tank attached to the rearward cross member of the frame.